Export of frog legs

2616. SHRI S. MADHAVAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to allow export of frog legs on a limited scale; and

(b) what steps Government have taken to prevent illegal export of frog legs under the name of frozen fish?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI ARANGIL SREEDHARAN): (a) The ban on export of frog legs is still in force.

(b) No instance of illegal export of frog legs under the name of frozen fish has been brought to the notice of Government.

Clearance of Pulichintala Project

2617. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pulichintala Project in Andhra Pradesh has since been cleared by the Central Water Commission;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) After examination, it was seen that the project report submitted in October, 1985 was not based on detailed surveys and investigations. Justification for the project was also not clearly brought out. The project was, therefore, returned to the State Government in October, 1986. The State Government is required to submit a modified project report.

Setting up of Institute of Textile Technology in Assam

2618. SHRI BHADRESWAR BURAGOHAIN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal for setting up an Institute of Textile Technology in Assam;

(b) whether the said Institute will be set up during the current financial year so that the classes can be started in the next academic year; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) AASU (All Assam Students Union) had in their Memorendum suggested, *inter alia*, setting up of an Institute of Textile Technogy in Assam.

(b) and (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Annual agricultural credit given by Public Sector Banks

2619. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the annual agricultural credit given by all the public sector banks as percentage of their total advances from 1982 to 1987;

(b) whether Government propose to increase such percentage from the current year onwards as a special case to help the farmers to cope with their drought related problems;

(c) what is the annual lending by the public sector banks to agriculture as a percentage of the value of gross annual agricultural production;

(d) what is the estimated quantum of loans being availed annually by the Indian farmers from private money lenders; and

(e) what steps are being taken by Government to eliminate such lending?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) and (b) The advances made by the Public Sector Banks to agriculture (direct finance) during the period 1982, to 1987 and their percentage share in the total advances are indicated below:

Year	Percentage Share of direct agriculture to total advances
Dec. 1982	12.6
Dec. 1983	13 3
Dec. 1984	13.9
March 1985	14.2
March 1986	15.0
March 1987	16.2

The target for direct agricultural advances to be achieved by March, 1990 has been fixed at 18 per cent of the total advances. There is no proposal at present to increase this target. However, in order to help the farmers to cope with their drought related problems, standing guidelines have been issued to commercial banks for extending relief measures to persons affected by natural calamities such as drought, flood, etc. These guidelines *inter-alia*, envisage conversion of short-term loan into medium-term production loan, rescheduling/postponement of the existing term loan instalments and provision of need based crop/investment loans to the affected farmers by banks.

(c) As per information received from Reserve Bank of India (RBI) percentage of public sector banks direct lending to agriculture and allied activities to value of gross output from agriculture (including livestock) for the year 1985-86, 1986-87 and 1987-88 was 2.9, 3.3 and 3.1 respectively

(d) The present data reporting system does not generate the information in the manner asked for. However, as per report of All India Debt and Investment Survey, 1981-82 of RBI, on an average the share of borrowing of the Indian cultivator household per family from moneylenders and tarde in 1981-82 was 23 per cent.

(e) Promotion and strengthening of *institutional lending agencies such* as Co-operatives, Commercial Banks and RRBs in rural areas continues to be main thrust in further reducing the role of money-lenders. Among many steps taken in this regard, mention may be made of the service area approach under which a bank branch is allotted a compact area to meet the credit requirements of the population in that area. In addition, consumption loans are also being provided by the banking system to meet the genuine requirements of small borrowers.

Building of roads and bridges by a subsidiary of a Public Sector Bank

2620. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a public sector bank has recently started a subsidiary to undertake building of major public works, such as roads and bridges; if so, what are the objectives of the company;

(b) whether all public sector banks will have such subsidiaries in the near future; and

(c) what are the details of the road building schemes that are going to be taken up by the subsidiary in operation and what are the details of such